UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1999/59/Add.1
29 April 1999

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 11 (a)

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONS OF TORTURE AND DETENTION

Report of the working group on the draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on its seventh session

Addendum

1. Following its consideration of the report of the working group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on its seventh session (E/CN.4/1999/59), the Commission on Human Rights adopted, on 26 April 1999, resolution 1999/30 entitled "Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment".

2. In paragraph 2 of that resolution, the Commission requested the working group, in order to continue its work, to meet prior to the fifty-sixth session of the Commission for a period of two weeks, with a view to completing expeditiously a final and substantive text, and to report to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session. In paragraph 6, the Commission encouraged the Chairman-Rapporteur of the working group to conduct informal intersessional consultations with all interested parties in order to facilitate the completion of a consolidated text.

3. Since the Chairman-Rapporteur of the working group's seventh session, Mr. Carlos Vargas Pizarro (Costa Rica), would not have been available to conduct the informal consultations during the intersessional period as provided for in Commission resolution 1999/30, an additional meeting of the working group was convened in order to select a person to replace Mr. Vargas Pizarro in carrying out the activities entrusted to him as Chairman. That meeting was held on 29 April 1999.

4. At the proposal of the representative of Costa Rica, Ms. Elisabeth Odio (Costa Rica) was elected Chairperson for the period until the next session of the working group.